

May 9, 1975

SENATOR KOCH: Senator Schmit, wouldn't it be possible that we could amend this bill on the matter of printing procedures such as we did 193 that they will do it on a quarterly basis.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator Koch, that suggestion was offered and, very frankly, I think you will recognize that a summarization of expenditures defeats the reason for printing and if you summarize it on a quarterly basis, and lump it together, it just does not give the information that is necessary. Now I would like to suggest this and I know that Senator Warner offered some valid criticisms but the Committee has spent more than a year, a year and a half, reviewing financial reports filed by the Natural Resource Districts. They are very enlightening and it is very encouraging to me, personally, and to the Committee to know that the Natural Resource Districts have no objection to the public having access to this information and I think to lump it together, Senator Koch, would be to defeat the purpose of the bill in the first place.

SENATOR KOCH: Well, Senator Schmit, I had the same reservation as Senator Warner did in 193 that we passed earlier in this session. My experience has been, having served in city government, that very few people ever read those types of reports and, in fact, I asked the members of the press before our Committee, what evidence did they have to prove that the public really read and paid much attention to this and they could give me no answer but yet they could always tell me how many people look at their ads, how many people read the editorials, how many people do these things, but it is foreign to people to read fine print, except if they are hunting for some specific item to criticize a people for. Then they will take a little time to do this but those individuals can usually acquire this information from the secretary or others who record the activities of the body. So my point is, the same as Senator Warner's, I am not opposed to the public knowing but I sometimes believe that we are placing before the public additional tax monies that really do not benefit the public generally in terms of expenditures.

SPEAKER: All right. Senator F. Lewis.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: I rise to support Senator Schmit on his amendments. However, as has previously been stated that with 26 here this is not going to be resolved here so I would urge the adoption of the amendment and do what is necessary on Select File, and on that basis, I'd move the previous question.

SPEAKER: Do I see five hands? I have five. Those wishing to close debate vote aye. Those who don't, vote nay. Voting aye.

CLERK: Senator Simpson voting aye.

SPEAKER: Have you all voted? The Clerk will record.

CLERK: 20 ayes, 4 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER: Debate is ceased. Senator Schmit will close on his motion.